

# GERMANS, HELD UP IN DIRECT DRIVE ON COMPIEGNE, BEGIN NEW ATTACK IN EFFORT TO OUTFLANK THAT PLACE

**Foe's Latest Effort is Directed on Western Flank of Aisne Salient South of Soissons and Success There Would Threaten French Line**

## FRENCH COUNTER-ATTACK WON BACK IMPORTANT TERRITORY

**German Attack on Center and Right of Montdidier-Noyon Sector Held Up by Stern Resistance of the French—Germans Put in Pocket**

German efforts to batter down the French defenses between Montdidier and the Oise, begun on Sunday, seem to have been checked on the third day of the struggle.

On the western end of the battleline, the French have counter-attacked and have regained important ground, while on the center and right repeated efforts by the enemy to exploit his earlier successes have been met with stern resistance from the French, who claim that the Germans are being held.

At the moment when the plunge of the foe west of the Oise appears to have met with a reverse, the front to the southeast has again flamed up. Striking the allied line to the southwest of Soissons, in the neighborhood of Domniers, Cutry and south of Ambleny, the Germans have begun what may be a very serious threat to the security of the allies north to the Oise.

The new attack would seem for the moment to be almost equal in importance to that east of Montdidier. It appears to be an effort on the part of the enemy to cut in south of Compiègne forest, outflanking the French to the north and compelling their retirement and a relocation of the whole allied line from Montdidier to Chateau-Thierry.

Except for the fact that heavy fighting is in progress, nothing is known of events on this new battle area, but the struggle there will be watched with some concern until the magnitude of the German thrust there is developed.

The French still hold the left bank of the Oise, although they may have readjusted their lines in the northern section of the Ourcamp and Carlepont forests. Their positions there, however, will become very awkward should the German drive west of Soissons make considerable ground.

The success of French counter-attacks along the western wing of the battleline has forced the Germans into a sort of pocket, bounded on the east by the Oise river and on the west by the high ground lying to the west of the Matz. Squared in front of this wedge, the French appear to be holding the foe, for the present at least.

Although there has been a belief that the German drive east of Montdidier was planned at least in part for the purpose of drawing allied reserves from the battlefields of Picardy and Flanders, nothing has as yet occurred to indicate that the Germans contemplate an immediate attack at Amiens or toward the channel ports. Only raiding operations are reported by the British war office.

## FRENCH HOLDING THEIR NEW GAINS ALONG THE ARONDE

**Repulsed Violent Attacks and Made New Progress East of Mery and Genlis Wood—Germans Kept from Debouching on South Bank of Matz River.**

Paris, June 12.—The battle continued during the last night on the front between Montdidier and the river Oise, without great change in the situation the war office announced today.

On the French left additional progress was made by French troops in the region east of Mery and Genlis wood. Near the center along the Aronde front, in the region of St. Maur, the Loge farm and Anthuill the French repulsed violent attacks by the enemy.

Despite repeated efforts the Germans on the French right were not able to debouch on the south bank of the Matz River.

The French are holding in that part of the battle area south of Chevincourt and Mareuil-sur-Matz.

South of the Aisne, on the front between Soissons and the Marne, the Germans attacked this morning. Fighting is going on between the river and the Villers-Cotterets forest. Violent combats are being fought on the front of Domniers, Cutry and south of Ambleny.

The statement reads: "The battle between Montdidier and the Oise continued without great change during the night. On our left all attempted attacks by the enemy against positions we had reconquered were broken."

"The French troops have withstood

the shock of attacks and inflicted heavy losses upon the assailants while guarding their positions.

"On the right, the Germans, despite repeated efforts, have not been able to debouch south of the Matz. The French are holding that part of the field south of Chevincourt and Mareuil-sur-Matz."

"According to new information from the battlefront, the French counter-attack yesterday occurred while a powerful German attack was in preparation on the same front. French troops came in contact with heavy forces of the enemy and threw them into disorder."

"Prisoners taken by the French are found to belong to four different divisions."

"South of the Aisne the Germans attacked this morning between the river and the Villers-Cotterets forest. Violent combats are going on on the front of Domniers, Cutry and south of Ambleny."

**French Captured Over 1,000 Prisoners.**

The official statement last night was as follows: "The battle continued today from Montdidier to the Oise."

"On the left our troops, supported by tanks, counter-attacked this afternoon along a front of 12 kilometers, between Rubecourt and St. Maur, and despite desperate resistance on the part of the enemy, reached the southern approaches of Le Fresnoy, captured the heights between Courcelles and Mortemer and carried our lines more than two kilometers to the east of Mery."

"We have also retaken Belloy and Genlis wood and reached the southern outskirts of St. Mauri."

"The enemy, who suffered heavy losses, left more than 1,000 prisoners and several guns in our hands."

"In the center, the Germans, who had succeeded in pushing forward to the south of Loge farm and Anthuill, were driven back beyond these two points by our troops, acting in concert with adjoining units."

"On the right the enemy increased his pressure, seeking to gain the Metz valley. Several violent attacks launched against Chevincourt were repulsed."

"The enemy succeeded in gaining a foothold in Machemont and Bethancourt, which were bitterly disputed."

## MINOR OPERATIONS ON BRITISH FRONT

**British Made a Small Raid and Captured a Few Prisoners—Enemy Raid in Aveluy Wood Was Repulsed.**

London, June 12.—An enemy raiding party last night attacked the British posts in Aveluy wood but was repulsed, the war office announced today. The British carried out a successful raid in the Boyelles region, capturing a few prisoners.

There was sporadic activity by the enemy artillery during the night in the region west of Lens.

## BRITISH AIR FORCES ACTIVE IN ITALY

**They Have Destroyed 21 Teuton Machines, According to Official Statement Given Out in London.**

London, June 12.—Twenty-one enemy aircrafts have been destroyed on the Italian front by the British air forces operating there, according to today's war office statement reporting on the British operations in this area.

## HEAVIEST BLOW NOT YET STRUCK BY GERMANS

**Military Critics in London Are Inclined to Interpret German Official Statement as Indicating That Present Drive Is Over.**

London, June 12.—Tuesday's German official statement would seem to bear out the interpretation that the German high command considers that the objects of its latest offensive already have been attained and that now the French are making successful counter-attacks the thrust will not be pursued further.

The great question to military critics here is whether General Ludendorff's armies are in the field and, if so, the interpretation is correct and it would bear out the view held by many military experts that the great stroke of the central powers on the western front is still to come.

The theory advanced by these critics is that the big offensives of March 21 and May 27 both developed successes far surpassing the anticipation of the German command and were developed much further than originally intended and that the smaller offensives of April 9 on the Ypres front and the present thrust on the Noyon-Montdidier front were engaged in as diversions to keep the Franco-British forces engaged and prevent them from making counter-offensives, while the Germans were restoring and consolidating their lines, repairing the confusion and disorder produced by the unexpected depth of their advances and completing preparations for their main blow.

The opinion is advanced that it will not be long before the heaviest attack yet seen will be launched by the Germans and probably against the British front, with the object of again attempting to divide the allied forces and reach the channel ports.

## TO-DAY'S FIGHTING

**Called Crucial**

**On the Outcome Will Depend Victory in Present Attack, According to Henri Bidou, French Military Critic.**

Paris, June 12.—Today's fighting probably will decide on which side victory will rest in the present attack, says Henri Bidou, the military critic, in reviewing the situation. He says the fighting is taking the classical form in which each side has won on one wing. The scales are now even.

By their counter-attack the French stopped the enemy from carrying out his plan and at the same time assured themselves of a better line of defense. The Germans now are obliged, M. Bidou believes, to keep their effectiveness on the firing line and to dip into their stock of reserves for fresh divisions.

The German plan for the present battle included the attacking and storming of Compiègne by the cavalry of the guard under General Von Schoeler on Sunday evening. Now the Germans not only are not at Compiègne, but they show a great deal less vigor in their efforts, except on their left.

## FRENCH REASSURED.

**Premier Clemenceau's Statement in Senate Hopeful.**

Paris, June 12.—(Havas Agency).—A reassuring impression has been produced by a statement given in the Senate by Premier Clemenceau on the situation at the front. He said that decisive results had been obtained at certain points with mind and minimum losses, while the enemy losses had been enormous. He laid stress on the resources of the French army which had crushed the German offensive, and the admirable American effort to dispatch new forces to France.

The Echo de Paris states that there were crack divisions from General Von Hutier's army in the enemy forces which were forced to retreat in the French counter-attack between Rubecourt and St. Maur. In the center, divisions of the guard, commanded by General Von Schoeler, were repulsed.

The Petit Journal calls attention to the fact that the appearance of certain regiments of Prince Rupprecht's army mingled with General Von Hutier's, indicated that the German losses were heavy as the German staff is opposed to mixing forces from two different army groups.

## CAPTURED 250 GERMANS.

**Americans Advanced Their Positions in Belleau Wood.**

Washington, D. C., June 12.—American troops northwest of Chateau Thierry yesterday morning advanced their positions in Belleau wood, capturing 250 prisoners and considerable war material, including a number of machine guns and trench mortars, General Pershing announced last night in his daily report.

It is in this section that the marines have been fighting for a number of days and it was assumed here that they were the troops referred to.

"Northwest of Chateau Thierry we were again successful in advancing our positions in the Belleau wood. We captured 250 prisoners, of whom three were officers, and considerable material, including a number of machine guns and trench mortars."

"In the Voivre our batteries executed effective neutralization and harassing fire."

Paris, June 12.—"American troops brilliantly carried Belleau wood yesterday morning, taking 300 prisoners."

This announcement is made by the war office in its official report last night. Belleau wood lies in the Chateau Thierry sector, just to the west of the village of Bouresches and south of the village of Belleau. The Belleau wood had been considered to be an almost impregnable position by the Germans. Dispatches from the front on Monday said the marines had continued their progress in the wood until the Germans were holding only the northern fringe of it.

## WILSON BLOCKS TREATY DEBATE

**Induces the Senate to Vote Down Open Discussion of Proposals**

**Views Presented to Sen. Hitchcock**

**President Believes There Should Be No Secret Agreement**

Washington, D. C., June 12.—President Wilson's disapproval today killed a proposal in the Senate for open discussion of treaties. Senators voted down, 60 to 23, an amendment by Senator Borah, embodying the proposal which had been offered as an amendment to the resolution of Senator Underwood of Alabama for curtailing Senate debate during the war.

The president's views were given in a letter to Secretary Lansing, a copy of which was sent to Chairman Hitchcock of the foreign relations committee. The president's letter said:

"I wish you would be kind enough to formulate a careful and conclusive memorandum for the use of the committee of the Senate with regard to the enclosed resolution. I take it for granted that you feel as I do, that this is no time to set as the resolution proscribes and certainly when I pronounced for open discussion I meant not that there should be no private discussions of delicate matters, but that no secret agreements should be entered into and that all international relations, when fixed, should be open, above board and explicit."

The memorandum requested from Secretary Lansing was not submitted to Chairman Hitchcock and was said not to have yet been completed.

## WAR CONTRACTS

**SENT INLAND**

**New England and Northeastern Section of the Country Will Not Share in the Expansion Now Proposed.**

Washington, D. C., June 12.—Steady industrial expansion in the Middle West and South through the placing of war orders with plants in those sections for the purpose of relieving eastern railroad congestion and labor shortage was seen today in the announcement of a new policy of contract allocation by the war industries board and the fuel and railroad administrations. In the transfer of new orders and plants to the inland districts, it was pointed out, no hardship will be worked upon the eastern section. The district in which it designed to prevent further expansion was outlined as follows:

The New England states, eastern and southern New York, Pennsylvania as far west as Williamsport and Altoona, New Jersey, Delaware and eastern Maryland, exclusive of Baltimore.

The aim of the war industries board, which passes on the larger portion of the contracts of the war and navy departments and shipping board, according to the new policy, will be to assign contracts to sections where transportation will not be overburdened, nor to denude other essential industries of labor, and where new and less congested routes to the south Atlantic and gulf ports will be easily available. With a constant supply of coal as the basis for the rapid completion of all war work, it is expected the new orders will go to the districts not far distant from the coal supply. Thus in the opinion of officials, the new policy will mean an expansion of war work plants in western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, West Virginia and other sections of the Mississippi valley and the south. None of the districts, however, it was emphasized, would be so flooded with government contracts as to cause unnatural booms.

## MARINE CORPS LOST 17 MEN IN ACTION

**Capt. John Blanchfield of Brooklyn Died of Wounds Received in Battle.**

Washington, D. C., June 12.—A marine corps casualty list, made public today, carries seventeen names, showing eleven men killed in action, two died of wounds, and four severely wounded. Captain John Blanchfield of Brooklyn died of wounds received in action.

## DIED AT NAVY HOSPITAL.

**Lieut. Lyman B. Hoops of Middletown, Conn., Had Pneumonia.**

Washington, D. C., June 12.—The death of Lieutenant Lyman B. Hoops, U. S. N., of No. 88 High street, Middletown, Conn., was announced today by the navy department. Lieut. Hoops died of pneumonia at the navy hospital, London, on June 8.

## QUIET ON TOUL FRONT.

**Artillery Activity Below Average and Few Airplanes Up.**

With the American Army in France, Tuesday, June 11 (by the Associated Press).—The artillery fire on the front northwest of Toul today was below the average of last week. Few airplanes were up.

## Frank L. Small Honored By Masons.

At the convention of the grand commandery of Vermont Masons at Burlington yesterday afternoon Frank L. Small was elected grand captain of the guard.

## ST. ALBANS MAN IS AGAIN HEAD

**Nelson E. L'Ecuier Chosen Chief Ranger by the Vermont C. O. F.**

**RICHMOND CHOSEN FOR NEXT CONVENTION**

**Convention Waited to Hear Bishop Rice This Afternoon**

After electing officers for 1918-21 and delegates to the international convention in Duluth, Minn., this forenoon, the state high court, Catholic Order of Foresters, on the second and last day of the 13th triennial convention, adjourned for a brief recess at noon and then convened this afternoon in a special session at 2 o'clock for the purpose of receiving Rt. Rev. J. J. Rice, bishop of the Roman Catholic diocese of Burlington. Bishop Rice's purpose in attending the convention did not become known until near noon and previously it had been planned to adjourn the convention, sine die, soon after 12 o'clock.

Richmond was chosen as the seat of the third triennial convention, which will be held in June, 1921.

The following officers were elected to three-year terms: State chief ranger, Maurice W. Ryan of Northfield; state high court, Nelson E. L'Ecuier of St. Albans; state vice chief ranger, Frank H. Sabourin of Newport; state secretary, Thomas B. Haley of Manchester; state treasurer, Louis N. Provost of Rutland; state directors, Charles E. Theriault of Montpelier, Rev. L. A. Vezina of Vergennes, Edmond LaFranchise of Bennington, Maurice W. Ryan of Northfield, Harry B. Ryan of Brattleboro; delegates to the international convention at Duluth, Minn., to be held Aug. 6, Rev. Norbert Proulx of Rutland, J. Edward McNulty of Barre, Jules Simays of Burlington, J. Herbert McJannet of Fairfield, Robert E. Stenson of St. Johnsbury; alternates, Rev. T. M. Aubin of Swanton, J. T. Grady of Brattleboro, L. P. Allard of Winoski, J. F. Heaver of Windsor and J. A. Aubin of Newport.

Tidings from the head of the state diocese that he would honor the convention with his presence moved the officers to revise their plans, with the result that the noon adjournment was preceded by an announcement that all delegates would reassemble in the Knights of Columbus hall after dinner. Bishop Rice came to Barre by automobile and his appearance in the hall was the signal for a warm ovation. He was formally invited by the presiding officer to address the convention. Bishop Rice replied in characteristic manner and then addressed the delegates in a vigorous fashion, touching upon the duties of Foresters in these times of unusual stress and urging upon the members the necessity of holding fast to the faith.

## Fine Trip to Quarries.

Returning from a delightful motor trip to the Barre granite quarries and Williamstown yesterday afternoon, the delegates were profuse in expressing their satisfaction with the entertainment provided by St. John's church. The route lay through one of the most picturesque roads to the quarry district. A large number of cars were provided, there was plenty of room for all to ride comfortably, and the drivers proceeded slowly so that the visitors might enjoy the scenery. Arriving at the quarries, the Foresters were shown every courtesy by the quarrymen. The trip had been so timed as to permit the delegation to view the quarries while operations were in full blast. It was a revelation to most of them, a few of whom had previously entertained an adequate conception of the magnitude of the industry. Quarries in Westerville and Graniteville were visited, and then the cars deployed, many of them making for Williamstown gulf.

There was a brief evening session, but most of the business in hand was left until this forenoon. Shortly before 8 a. m. today, the officers and delegates, after assembling at the K. of C. hall, where the convention sessions were held, marched in a body to St. Monica's church, where a requiem high mass was celebrated for the deceased members of the order. Rev. T. M. Aubin of Swanton, a member of the Society of St. Edmund, which maintains a brotherhood house in that village, was the celebrant. Father Aubin held the office of spiritual director of the state court. The sermon was preached by Rev. Fr. Joseph Turcot, pastor of St. Sylvester's church at Graniteville. Father Turcot's eulogium of the Foresters who have passed on was well calculated to hold the reverent attention of his brother Foresters, and his tribute to deceased members of Catholic Forestry plainly struck a responsive chord.

## TALK OF THE TOWN

Miss Jane Watkins, who has been visiting for some time at her home on Summer street, returned last evening to Montreal, where she is employed.

The work of laying the new cement sidewalk on the east side of South Main street, which was left uncompleted last fall, owing to the lateness of the year, is being rapidly pushed forward. The work is being supervised by Contractor Gregor and it is expected that it will be completed by the end of the week, the cement having been laid up to the intersection of the Barre & Chelsea railroad crossing this forenoon.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Beginning June 10, the yearly subscription price for The Times by mail is \$4.00, cash in advance.

F. E. LANGLEY, Pub.

## MAIN ST. CONGESTION WAS CONSIDERED

**Barre Aldermen Discussed Possibilities for Relieving Conditions During Saturday Evening.**

War chest activities had the call over city business last evening and the board of aldermen, several of whom worked busily in the drive yesterday, tarried not long at the regular meeting in the evening. There was little business to be transacted. An informal discussion of traffic conditions on North Main street, with particular reference to Saturday nights, found the aldermen unable to decide whether the highway is any more congested in Barre than in other towns under similar circumstances. Aldermen Healy and Milne were among those who favored capable and courteous policemen to handle the traffic instead of a generally enforced evacuation of the street by motorists. It was thought that the police are doing very well in the matter of handling and guiding motorists. Mayor Glysson, Aldermen Loranger and Alderman McMillan were of the opinion that a parking place removed from the business section might help. Alderman Alexander said the situation had been reviewed by the police committee recently in company with the chief and the deputy chief. The discussion came to naught, as the subject of additional traffic regulations was remanded to the police committee.

A probate court petition for the commitment of a child to the home for feeble minded and a petition for the transfer of a tuberculosis patient to Pittsford were presented and signed by the mayor and aldermen. The New England Tel. Co. received permission to substitute a cable for wires on its Merchant street line. The application of Calder & Richardson for a permit to rebuild their Granite street woodshed was referred to the fire committee. Building permits were granted as follows: L. De Blois, to build a house annex at 93 Maple avenue; Elmer Holmes, to build a garage, raise a barn and remodel a piazza at 7 Eastern avenue; Greason & Lane to erect a small shed annex in Burnham's meadow. A. G. Nye was granted a permit to move a lunch cart from Depot square to 300 North Main street with the reservation that the location be acceptable to the building inspector.

The following warrants were approved for payment: Street department payroll, \$363.82; engineering payroll, \$36.81; fire payroll, \$134.32; police payroll, \$104.37; assessors' payroll, \$74.4; G. A. Bemis, \$16, services as janitor; D. M. Gilbertson, \$12.00, services as watch inspector; Henry Alexander, \$81.30, services as alderman; A. J. Loranger, \$44.80, services as alderman.

## STATE OF VERMONT LOSSES.

**In Effort to Assess Various Insurance Companies \$300 Fee.**

The attorneys in the case of the Fidelity and Deposit company of Maryland against the State of Vermont, J. G. Brown, insurance commissioner, an action restraining the commissioner from revoking the licenses of the casualty company to do business in Vermont, this morning received the opinion from the supreme court, in which the decree was reversed, demurrer overruled, bill of the casualty company adjudged sufficient, and cause remanded, which it is expected will finish this case and the two cases which depend upon this action.

This case went to supreme court following a decree made by Chancellor L. P. Slack in favor of the state collecting \$300 license tax from the casualty company. The companion cases are the Maryland Casualty company and the United States Fidelity and Guaranty company, both of Maryland.

These cases developed out of a statute existing in the Vermont laws, which was believed to give the commissioner authority to collect the same license fee from any casualty company in Maryland or any other state as is collected by that state upon a Vermont insurance company doing business in that state. The former fee was \$5, while the one imposed was \$300, which is the fee the National Life Insurance company pays in Maryland. H. G. Barber, attorney general, appeared for the State, and Theriault and Hunt for the casualty company.

## FUNERAL OF JUDGE EDGERTON.

**Will Be Held at Northfield on Thursday Afternoon.**

Northfield, June 12.—The funeral of Judge C. D. Edgerton, who died of heart disease yesterday forenoon, will be held Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and interment will be in Elmwood cemetery.

Charles Darwin Edgerton was born in Braintree, N. Y., Aug. 25, 1836, the son of Orvis and Roxanna Edgerton. When he was 10 years old he came with his parents to Northfield. He was educated in the public and high schools here and at Dartmouth college, graduating from the last-named institution in 1879. The following year he entered the law office of Frank Plimley, and he was admitted to the Vermont bar in 1880. He then moved to the office of the Vermont Watchman in Montpelier and the Ely Foundry Co.

From 1888 to 1902 he was an assistant judge of Washington county and he had held many town offices. He was for many years moderator of town meetings. In 1892 he married Roxanna Orcutt, who survives him.

## TO MEET AT MONTELLIER.

**Town Committeemen on Forthcoming War Savings Stamp Drive in County.**

County Manager Frank G. Howland of the war savings stamp campaign in Washington county has called a meeting of the town W. S. S. committeemen and all others who may desire to attend the meeting to be held at Montpelier city hall 8 a. m. Saturday afternoon, June 15, beginning at 2 o'clock. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the statewide drive for pledges to the war savings stamp movement, and State Director Fred A. Howland will be present to assist in the preparation of plans.

## RECLASSIFICATION JUNE 17.

**Vermont Questionnaires Are to Be Re-examined Then.**

The Vermont adjutant-general today addressed letters to local boards, setting aside the week of June 17 for the re-examination of questionnaires and the reclassification of drafted men, as recently ordered by the government. The local boards, the government appeal agents, and the legal advisers of the draft men are to consider the matter, particular attention being paid to sections a and b in class 2, a, b and c in class 3, and a in class 4.

## ABOUT \$34,000 TABULATED

**Barre's War Chest Is Filling Under a Generous Response**

**TWO MORE DAYS VOTING TO DRIVE**

**Headquarters Much Pleased With Outlook for the Canvass**

The first day of the house-to-house canvass for Barre war chest subscriptions yielded handsome returns, yet with a rising \$34,000 already in hand, the results of the campaign are nowhere near complete, and two or three days may elapse before the aggregate contribution can be announced. Although the response yesterday far exceeded expectations, the committee is still aware that a task of considerable magnitude still confronts the community if the war chest is to receive the support that it deserves. Nearly a dozen workers at the Church street campaign headquarters could not keep pace with the returns today, and by tomorrow with more complete figures it is believed that the \$40,000 mark will have been passed.

Even then the returns will be by no means complete. None of the ward captains has filed final returns, and in most instances the canvass is far from finished. Yesterday's was the most active drive of any that have been staged since the war began. It was so thoroughly planned and so comprehensive in its scope that the workers found it physically impossible to cover all the territory in a single day. They started out early in the forenoon with a \$20,000 subscription from the granite manufacturing section as a nest egg, and by nightfall the results of their labor, while for obvious reasons they were not susceptible to final accounting, had probably doubled that amount. Canvassers worked far into the evening and late hours found them so far ahead that they postponed reporting until today. Sponsors for the campaign do not attempt to conceal their gratification over the outcome of the first day's drive, and as for the days that are to follow they are wholly optimistic.

It is a drive in which the solicitors, 174 of them, report a multiplicity of experiences, as varied as they were numerous. It is one of the most hopeful signs of the campaign that the response in general was generous and spontaneous to a degree. Out of the shuffle of returns the committee could not escape the conviction that the rank and file of the Barre people, particularly the workmen—and that designation is all inclusive—are keenly alive to the fact that the nation is warring not alone for the preservation of other democracies, but for the safety of its own. Over and over again canvassers were informed by contributors that they were giving, not alone to help the young manhood who are fighting America's battles over there, but because they were anxious to preclude the possibility of losing the priceless heritage that is theirs under the present system of government. It was as if the Hun had knocked at our gate—and he has. People gave and will continue to give because they have thought of America as Vermont, Barre might be transformed into the shambles which German ruthlessness has created among the home-keeping peoples of Belgium and northern France.

Yet there were the exceptions. The slackers were greatly in the minority, but they pleaded the threadbare excuses that tin-bonnet patriots have since the war began. They refused to give because, they said, America is in no danger. It was a cheap subterfuge that has been drafted by slackers before. In the minds of the solicitors it did not alter the fact that by this time everybody is thoroughly aware that Kaiserism will triumph unless America wages her war to the limit. Other men gave the worn-out excuse that the solicitors were working on a percentage basis, or that no one knew where the money would go. Camouflage of this sort is too transparent to merit comment, and in most instances the canvassers did not trouble themselves to give the slackers the lie. The slackers will get the attention they deserve later—after the business of collecting contributions from loyal people is out of the way.

## MASONS SHOW GAIN.

**Membership Increased During the Year—Grand Lodge in Session.**

Burlington, June 12.—The grand lodge of Masons, No. 126, is in convention today. David J. Elliott, grand master, presided and there was a large attendance.

Six hundred new Masons have joined the order during the year and there is a total of 103 lodges and 1,500 members. Allowing for the 257 deaths in the year, the net gain was 300.

A thrift stamp campaign is producing results in the body and the honor roll of men in service numbers several hundred.

## Important to Granite Men.

The trunk line district freight committee have appointed the following subcommittee to investigate and report on the matter of rates dependent upon declared or released value of property, as described in the circular of the interstate commerce commission dated April 26, 1918:

J. B. Large, general freight agent, Pennsylvania Railway company.  
D. E. Gelatt, assistant general freight agent, New York Central lines.  
E. M. Snyder, general freight agent, C. R. of N. J. railway.  
C. D. Waters, general freight agent, Montpelier & Wells River railway.  
George Cassidy, general freight agent, Rutland railway.  
George M. Wood, assistant general freight agent, New York, New Haven & Hartford railway.

As nearly all granite rates as well as very many merchandise rates are made upon a valuation basis, the question at issue is one of importance to this community.

Mrs. C. N. Barber is passing several days with relatives in Randolph and East Bethel.